for suggesting a viable capital and financial structure for Prasar Bharati so as to strengthen its functioning. The ten Member Committee is headed by Secretary (I&B) and has representation of senior-level officers of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting as well as Prasar Bharati besides the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance.

Marketing and production of violent video games

1421. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government attention has been drawn on marketing and production of violent video games in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government attention has also been drawn on the harmful psychological effect on the young children; and

(c) if so, the steps are being taken to stop the marketing of such type of video games and action taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (c) The subject matter does not pertain to this Ministry. However, information is being collected from various Ministries/Departments and will be laid on the table of the house.

Censor board for advertisements

†1422. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards several advertisements being shown on T.V. and brought out by newspapers and other mediums;

(b) if so, whether any Censor Board has been constituted by Government to check these advertisement; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the scope of this Censor Board?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (c) As far as Doordarshan and Private TV Channels are concerned, there is no pre-censorship of any advertisements. Doordarshan is controlled by its Code for Commercial Advertising and all the advertisements/programmes of satellite TV channels transmitted/retransmitted through Cable Network service are required to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

adhere to the Programme Code and Advertising Code prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed there under.

The Central Government has constituted an Inter-ministerial Committee to take cognizance *suo moto* or look into specific complaints regarding violation of advertising Code by TV Channels.

The Press in India is free from Government control and is in private hands. In pursuance of its policy to uphold the freedom of the Press, the Government does not interfere in its functioning. The Press Council of India (PCI) is a statutory autonomous body set up under the Press Council Act, 1978 with the twin object of Preserving the freedom of the Press and of maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers and news agencies in India and to inculcate principles of self-regulation among the press. The Government follows a policy of non-interference in the functioning of the Council and it enjoys complete autonomy in its functioning. The Council, which is in the nature of a self-regulatory body of the Press, has built "Norms of Journalistic Conduct", which cover principles and ethics with regard to journalism as also guidelines on reporting the specific issues of public and national importance. The provisions 17 and 36 of the 'Norms of Journalistic Conduct' prohibits newspapers/ journalists from publishing anything that is obscene, vulgar or offensive to public good taste and displaying false advertisements. The advisories issued by the Press Council of India, however, carry only moral force and are not enforceable in a Court of Law.

Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) certifies Films, including that of advertisements for Public Exhibition under the provisions of Section 5(B) of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 and the guidelines framed there under. While certifying the Advertisements it is ensured that the advertisements which have any obscene or vulgar contents are either refused or certified after deletion of such scenes.

Second phase of FM stations

1423. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the auction of nearly 330 FM Stations in 91 cities in the ongoing second phase has received an overwhelming response, fetching one time entry fee of about 1,100 crore and opening a source of revenue for Government by way of annual fees;